Mountain Weather Forecast

North Grampian

Including North and West Cairngorms National Park, Monadhliath, Ben Alder, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Ericht and Loch Rannoch
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 25 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Saturday 26 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Friday 25 Dec 2020 at 01:07 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for Christmas Day, and for a cloudy windy day Boxing Day, but low for exact wind strength and eastern extent of rain. Low from Sunday with uncertainty in location of snow showers.

Headline for Friday 25 Dec 2020: Cloud lowering through the day. Storm force winds in the afternoon, rain and rising freezing levels by evening.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 25 Dec 2020

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** High Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
FOG	FOG				
Fog	Fog	Light snow	Sleet	Sleet	Light snow
Precipitation probability					
00%	10%	30%	30%	60%	30%

Forecast for Friday 25 Dec 2020

Weather: A dry, overcast morning, although some brighter spells likely. Cloud thickens and lowers around midday, bringing a few spots of rain and summit snow in the afternoon with severe gale to storm force winds across the tops. A couple of hours of heavier more persistent rain to all levels from early evening, clearing to leave clear spells and a few wintery showers by late evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 60% around dawn, with cloud lowering into the tops of western ranges, but more broken across the Cairngorms and Monadhliath hills. Chances deteriorating through the morning as cloud becomes increasingly extensive above 600-700m, falling to nil by dusk. Cloud breaks forming by late evening.

Visibility: Increasingly poor on the tops as cloud lowers through the morning, whiteout conditions giving very poor contrast above the snow level. Very good at low levels.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Friday 25 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	29/38 W	28/39 SW	40/54 SW	46/63 SW	47/63 SW	37/50 W	36/49 W
900	25/29 SW	27/34 SW	37/45 SW	43/54 SW	44/55 SW	30/40 W	32/42 W
600	15/21 SW	16/23 SW	22/30 SW	27/37 SW	30/41 SW	20/29 W	20/29 SW
300	3/14 SW	6/18 SW	10/26 SW	14/32 SW	14/33 SW	8/22 W	8/22 SW
Glen	5/19 SW	7/22 SW	8/27 SW	6/27 SW	6/28 SW	5/23 W	5/23 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-5/-14	-4/-12	-3/-12	-3/-13	-2/-12	-3/-12	-4/-14
900	-1/-9	-1/-9	-0/-9	0/-8	1/-7	0/-7	-1/-9
600	0/-5	1/-5	2/-4	3/-4	4/-3	3/-3	2/-4
300	0/-2	1/-1	3/-0	4/0	5/1	4/1	3/-0
Glen	1/-2	2/-3	4/-0	5/2	6/3	5/2	4/1
Freezing Level*	300m	600m	900m	900m	1200m	800m	700m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Increasingly difficult conditions this afternoon with a high chance of being blown over. Bitterly cold despite rising freezing levels. Gusts across the higher summits of the Cairngorms likely to reach 75 mph at times around dusk and early evening.

Forecast for Saturday 26 Dec 2020

Weather: Rain, snow above 700-800m, occasionally 900m in the west, persistent and often heavy from around dawn, although patchy across the eastern Cairngorms until the afternoon. Storm force winds on the summits throughout the day, giving persistent blizzard conditions on the tops. Snow lowering to 500-600m around late evening.

Maximum wind: Southwest 45 gusting 60-70 mph, becoming West-southwest 25 gusting 35-40 mph late evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Nil, cloud persistent above 500m.

Visibility: Very poor throughout at height, near zero in persistent blizzards. A few km at low levels in heavy rain.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 4 Celsius
At 800m: Zero Celsius, falling to minus 2 Celsius late evening.
Freezing level: 800-900m, falling to 500m late evening.

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